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SURVEY OF HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES

THE SOCIETY AND THE STATE

The membership campaign which has been instituted under the able direction of Mr. J. H. A. Lacher, of Waukesha, has brought into the Society during the past quarter an unusual number of new members. We list them here, and submit some comment on the membership campaign elsewhere in this *MAGAZINE*:

Life members who have joined since the last report are as follows: Frederick A. Chadbourne, Columbus; Fred S. Hunt, Milwaukee; Dr. Norton W. Jipson, Chicago; Carl Kurtenacker, La Crosse; Sidney E. Lang, Winnipeg, Manitoba; F. F. Lewis, Janesville; Frank B. Luchsinger, Monroe; W. H. McGrath, Monroe; Nathan Paine, Oshkosh; Frank Sensenbrenner, Neenah; B. M. Sletteland, Pigeon Falls; Benjamin W. Snow, Madison; Rev. C. O. Solberg, Minneapolis; W. W. Strickland, Superior; and O. T. Waite, Oshkosh.

The new annual members are: Alvin R. Amundson, Cambridge; Lynn H. Ashley, Hudson; Caspar Bagley, Cambridge; C. L. Baldwin, La Crosse; W. H. Bissell, Wausau; Ernest Bruemmer, Algoma; W. S. Caswell, Milwaukee; Carlisle R. Clarke, Cambridge; J. D. Conan, Ely, Minn.; Henry K. Cowen, Milwaukee; C. P. Crosby, Rhinelander; Mrs. William H. Crosby, Racine; Joseph C. Culver, Eau Claire; J. H. Daggett, Milwaukee; C. W. Davis, Madison; Edward Deschamps, Whitefield Bay; Arthur Dietz, Coloma; Lelon A. Doolittle, Eau Claire; John E. Doyle, Madison; Oscar B. Duxstad, Clinton; William H. Edwards, Milwaukee; Ida L. Ela, Rochester; Charles E. Frey, Watertown; Anna G. Gasser, Prairie du Sac; F. Neil Gibson, Coloma; Rev. Henry G. Goodsell, Madison; Edward Hancock Sr., Shullsburg; O. H. Hanson, Cambridge; Dr. Grove Harkness, Waukesha; Andrew A. Hathaway, Easton, Maryland; A. O. Hecht, Appleton; F. P. Henning, Cambridge; W. E. Jillion, Milwaukee; Thomas S. Johnson, Beaver Dam; John Joys, Milwaukee; Dr. J. Sothoron Keech, Racine; Mrs. Jennie A. Keysar, Prairie du Sac; E. F. Kileen, Wautoma; William H. Killen, Minneapolis, Minn.; Herman O. Klein, La Crosse; Louis E. Knudson, Bruce; Arnold G. Krause, Bruce; A. O. Kromrey, Eau Claire; Mary L. Loomis, Madison; A. L. McClelland, Rosendale; J. B. McLaren, Appleton; A. M. May, Waukon, Iowa; Dr. Wilbur G. Melaas, Beloit; Louis H. Mickelsen, Racine; F. S. Morris, Sheboygan; Thomas Morris, La Crosse; C. K. Newhouse, Clinton; W. C. Norton, Elkhorn; James B. Overton, Madison; Asa K. Owen, Phil-

lips; John W. Owen, Racine; Lincoln H. Parker, River Falls; John Peterson, Clinton; Arthur J. Porter, Racine; E. L. Richardson, Milwaukee; William J. Rietow, Sheboygan; Mrs. Frederick Rogers, Oconomowoc; Max Rohr, Watertown; William Ryan, Madison; William H. Ryan, Appleton; Charles J. Sarff, Shullsburg; Frank H. Scofield, La Crosse; E. P. Sherry, Milwaukee; William Sproesser, Watertown; A. H. Whitney, Columbus; Charles Wickstrom, Superior; Frank Winter, La Crosse; Mrs. Elizabeth A. Wooster, Racine; Voyta Wrabetz, Madison; H. H. Wright, Darlington; Joseph Yoerg, Hudson.

Aside from the foregoing, Mr. Albert D. Bolens, of Port Washington, has changed from annual to life membership, and Yale University Library has taken institutional membership in the Society.

William D. Hoard of, Fort Atkinson, long a member of the State Historical Society, died at his home at an advanced age November 22, 1918. A native of New York, Mr. Hoard early came to Wisconsin and here passed the greater part of his long and useful life. In boyhood he mastered the language of the Iroquois tribe to which his father preached in western New York. In later life when stumping the state in his gubernatorial campaign, at Stockbridge, Mr. Hoard addressed the New York Indians who had migrated to Badgerdom in their native tongue, much to their surprise and gratification. In his death Wisconsin lost one of her greatest sons.

Charles R. Van Hise, for many years a member and for fourteen years a curator of the State Historical Society, died November 19, 1918. Dr. Van Hise was one of the nation's greatest geologists and since 1903 had held the presidency of the University of Wisconsin.

The Reverend S. T. Kidder, of Madison, died at his home October 23, 1918. Mr. Kidder was actively interested in historical matters. He was a member of the State Historical Society and for many years had taken a leading part in inspiring an interest in the history of Congregationalism in Wisconsin. Last summer, largely through Mr. Kidder's agency, the state Congregational organization turned over to the State Historical Library a valuable collection of material pertaining to the history of this denomination.

A splendid memorial in bronze and stone to the memory of Dr. Horace White and his son Horace, the noted journalist, was unveiled in the public park at Beloit in late October. The elder White may fairly be regarded as the founder of Beloit since he chose it as the site for a future home in the West of the New England Emigration Company in 1837. The younger White grew up at Beloit and was

one of the early graduates from the college. The memorial, the gift to the city of the White family, was originally planned in honor of Dr. Horace White only. The younger man having died before its erection, however, the heirs decided to erect a joint memorial to perpetuate the memory of father and son. The public dedication of the memorial will take place in the spring of 1919.

Late in December, at his Chicago home, died Abijah Catlin, a resident of Dane County from 1836 until fifteen years ago. Mr. Catlin was a nephew of John Catlin, territorial secretary of Wisconsin in 1846. Mr. Catlin participated in two gold rushes, that to California in 1849 and to Pike's Peak a decade later.

Charles E. Estabrook, of Milwaukee, life member of the State Historical Society, twice attorney-general of Wisconsin, and several times member of the state legislature, died suddenly of heart failure at his home, December 3, 1918. Mr. Estabrook was a veteran of the Civil War and actively interested in its history. He was chiefly responsible for the creation of the Wisconsin History Commission in 1905 and served as its chairman throughout the decade of its existence. To this commission is due the publication of ten volumes on Wisconsin in the Civil War, the last of these being the *Artilleryman's Diary* of Jenkin Lloyd-Jones. More recently Mr. Estabrook had brought about the publication by the state, under his supervision, of a reprint edition of the adjutant general's reports for the Civil War period.

Mrs. M. P. Rindlaub, of Platteville, where she had resided over half a century, died December 22, 1918. Mr. Rindlaub has long been a veteran of Wisconsin journalism. Mrs. Rindlaub was for a time treasurer of the State Press Association and was affectionately known as the "Mother of the Association." She was a pioneer worker in the temperance and woman suffrage movements, and active in religious and educational matters.

By the death at Green Bay in November, 1918, of Miss Emilie Grignon was severed a link connecting twentieth-century Wisconsin with its primitive beginnings. Miss Grignon's father was Paul (or Hippolyte) Grignon, son of Pierre, the noted early Wisconsin fur trader. Paul was born in September, 1790, and wintered as a trader at Milwaukee about the time Solomon Juneau first came there, a century ago. The daughter who has just died was born near Milwaukee in 1827, almost a decade before the modern Milwaukee took its birth. Her mother was a Menominee Indian woman.

Orrin H. Ingram, of Eau Claire, one of Wisconsin's leading business men, died at the age of eighty-nine, October 16, 1918. Mr.

Ingram came to Eau Claire in 1856 and soon became a dominant figure in the lumber industry which for long was, next to agriculture, Wisconsin's dominant occupation. He was long a member of the State Historical Society. A few years ago he presented for its manuscript collection the papers of the Empire Lumber Company. When the history of the lumber industry in this state shall finally be written these papers will figure prominently in the preparation of the story.

John Barnes, a member of the State Historical Society, general counsel for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and ex-justice of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, died at his Milwaukee home on January 1, 1919. From humble beginnings Judge Barnes rose to a position of eminence in his state and in his profession. His career well illustrates the type which we are prone to think of as typically American.

Benjamin F. McMillan, of McMillan, died at his home in November, 1918. Mr. McMillan was a man of extensive and varied business interests, although his life was associated more largely with the lumbering industry than with any other. He was elected a curator of the State Historical Society in 1904, and a vice president in 1905, and continued to hold these offices until death.

Pneumonia, which was responsible for the death of Mr. McMillan, on December 21, 1918 terminated the life of Colonel Hiram Hayes of Superior. Colonel Hayes was one of Superior's oldest and best known residents. He came there in June, 1854, at the age of twenty-two, and died there in December, 1918, at the age of eighty-six. A lawyer by profession and a graduate of Bowdoin College, he early became prominent in public affairs. The year after his arrival he took the census of Superior; now the second city of Wisconsin, it then had a population of less than 400 souls. He served four years in the Civil War, rising to the rank of Colonel. In 1906 he became a curator of the State Historical Society, and was successively reelected to this office until the time of his death.

Martin Pattison of Superior, banker and lumberman, died at his home late in December, 1918. For many years Mr. Pattison had been a member of the State Historical Society.

Theodore Roosevelt, notable as both a maker and a recorder of history, died peacefully at his Long Island home, January 6, 1919. Mr. Roosevelt mastered and practised many callings, prominent among them being that of historian. With him and with his most notable historical work the Wisconsin Historical Society was inti-

mately associated. On February 12, 1886, Mr. Roosevelt, then a young man of twenty-six, but already a reformer, a historian, an ex-rancher, and an ex-assemblyman, wrote (with his own hand, be it noted) a four-page letter to Dr. Draper announcing his project for bringing out a work "in reference to the extension of our boundaries to the southwest, from the day when Boone crossed the Alleghenies, to the days of the Alamo and San Jacinto," and appealing for information and assistance concerning sources of information. The appeal was not in vain. True to its policy of now some seven decades' duration of welcoming all who will to its treasures and administering them in the most liberal fashion possible consistent with their safeguarding, the Society invited the eager seeker after historical truth to partake of its store. Somewhat later Mr. Roosevelt came to Madison to work in the Historical Library, the particular magnet which drew him being the Draper Collection of manuscripts. How well he used them and how greatly he was indebted to them is known to all who have read the third volume of *The Winning of the West*. More than once in the book the author acknowledges his obligation to the "generous courtesy" or the "great courtesy" of Dr. R. G. Thwaites, who had by this time succeeded Draper as secretary of the Society.

In January, 1893, Mr. Roosevelt again came to Madison, this time to deliver the biennial address before the Society. The address, "The Northwest in the Nation," was given in the Assembly Chamber of the old Capitol. This year he was elected honorary vice president of the Society, and in this capacity he was carried on its roll of officers until the position of honorary vice presidency was discontinued in 1896. In 1903 Mr. Roosevelt, now president of the United States, cordially granted to Dr. Thwaites permission to dedicate to him the forthcoming monumental edition of the Original Journals of Lewis and Clark. Dr. Thwaites' reasons for wishing to dedicate the work to Roosevelt were given in a personal letter to the President as follows:

"(1) We have long been personal friends, as well as fellow laborers in the same field of history; (2) your "Winning of the West" especially associates you with this earliest pathbreaking to the Pacific; and (3) it would seem eminently appropriate that the first complete publication of the results of the expedition, which President Jefferson fathered a century ago, should be inscribed to the chief executive in this centennial year—he who has but recently dedicated the exposition which celebrates this exploration, and whose own recent journey to occidental tidewater has of itself proved a veritable "Winning of the West."

In the spring of 1918 the present writer reminded Mr. Roosevelt that a quarter of a century earlier he had delivered the formal address before the Society and invited him again to address it at the annual meeting in October, but the pressure of other and more urgent duties prevented acceptance of the invitation. Finally about two months before the ex-President's death a somewhat moving letter of a Wisconsin soldier concerning the grave of Quentin Roosevelt, published in a paper at Sturgeon Bay, was sent to the saddened parents, eliciting the usual courteous acknowledgment.

We do not think proper in this place to comment on the career or character of Theodore Roosevelt. That he was abler and more far-sighted than most men, all contemporaries unite in conceding. We cannot forbear commending, to our own Wisconsin audience, however, Mr. Roosevelt's far-sighted example with respect to one matter. Some years since, realizing the historical value of his personal papers and his own inability to insure their safe preservation to posterity, he turned them over to the nation's great library at Washington for safeguarding until the time shall arrive when they may properly be thrown open to the scholarly public. Among his services to the historical profession this simple act will assuredly not be accounted the least. Attention is called to it in the hope that some among the Society's constituency may be moved to imitate for the enrichment of the history of Wisconsin our former vice president's example.

George J. Kellogg, whose career is coeval with that of Wisconsin Territory and State, died at Minneapolis in his ninety-first year, January 8, 1919. Mr. Kellogg was one of the common men who chiefly make history. Born in New York in 1828, as a boy of seven he came with his father to Kenosha in the summer of 1835. There was no Kenosha then, however, the settlement being known as plain Pike River; later the name was changed to Southport and still later this in turn gave place to Kenosha. The Kellogg settlement was west of Kenosha near the present Sylvania in Racine County. There several brothers bought land, George's father among the others. The children attended the common schools—"and they were very common" Mr. Kellogg declared in later life. George in due time graduated from Louis P. Harvey's Southport academy (twenty years later Harvey died while governor of Wisconsin). Mr. Kellogg then taught school two years, worked two years in the pinery, and in 1849 joined in the gold rush to California. In 1852 he returned to Wisconsin with several thousand dollars in gold. He was then twenty-four years of age; settling at Janesville he devoted the remainder of his life to the nursery business. In this he was as truly a pioneer as he had been in the rush to California. Horticulture

was in its infancy in Wisconsin, and such beginnings as existed were confined to the lake shore where climatic conditions were materially different from those which prevail in the interior of the state. The assumption with which Mr. Kellogg began his work that Wisconsin, due west of New York, would produce the same varieties of apples which had been developed in that state proved wholly wrong. Years of experimenting at heavy expense of funds and labor were necessary to develop apples and other fruits adapted to the soil and climate of Wisconsin. Mr. Kellogg was a charter member of the Wisconsin Horticultural Society, and for years before his death he was the sole surviving charter member. In later years he devoted most of his attention to small fruits, being especially interested in the development of the ever-bearing strawberry. Perhaps the most noteworthy thing about him was the retention up to his ninetieth year of an active interest in horticultural development, and an enthusiasm for knowledge which led him to carry on an extensive correspondence with leading horticulturists, and to journey from state to state to observe for himself the results of their efforts.

When he went to California in 1849 Mr. Kellogg began keeping a diary and this practice developed into a lifetime habit. In 1914 the portion of this diary covering its first sixty years was presented to the State Historical Library, with the promise that at his death the remaining portion should come to the Society. On settling at Janesville in 1852 Mr. Kellogg began methodically to record observations of the weather, taking the temperature and other data three times daily. At the close of 1914 (when the writer paid him a visit) he was still using the same thermometer with which he began his observations in 1852; in the sixty-two year period that had elapsed, however, he had found it necessary to renew the marks on the thermometer scale three times. This weather record antedates by twenty years the founding of the government weather bureau, and on at least one occasion the possession of it enabled Mr. Kellogg to furnish important evidence in a legal trial in the determination of which the condition of the weather was a factor. Incidentally it may be noted that this daily record of almost seventy years refutes conclusively (at least for the vicinity of Janesville) the popular impression that the winters of pioneer days were more severe than those of recent years.

Mr. Kellogg was a pioneer of a type rapidly passing away. Sturdy in his physical frame, he was likewise of uncompromising morality and deeply religious. As an individualist he would maintain his convictions against the world, but these convictions were permeated by high idealism, and dominated by a desire for the good of his fellow-men.

That one long life has spanned the history of the American settlement of Wisconsin is instanced by the death in Florida on December 17, 1918, of the eldest son of James D. Doty, first United States judge for Wisconsin in its preterritorial period. Judge Doty was a native of New York, who early settled at Detroit and accompanied Governor Lewis Cass on his exploration in 1820 of Lake Superior and the Upper Mississippi River. In 1823 Doty was appointed "additional judge" for that part of Michigan Territory west of Lake Michigan. Before visiting his jurisdiction he returned to his former home in New York, married Sarah Collins, and brought his bride to what was then a wilderness. There at the little settlement on the east side of Fox River, known as Cantonment Smith, Menomineeville, or more generally as "Shantytown," their first child was born on August 17, 1824. Mrs. Henry Baird in her delightful reminiscences of life in primitive Wisconsin says: "The first call I received as a housekeeper [in 1824] was from Judge and Mrs. Doty. They walked to our home, the Judge carrying their baby, Charles Doty." Young Doty's youth was therefore coeval with that of Wisconsin. He was a lad of twelve when the territory was erected; two years later his father went to Washington as delegate to Congress from the new territory. Charles was at this time sent to school at Derry, New Hampshire, where, like most frontier boys, he studied engineering and surveying. In 1840 when he was but sixteen he accompanied the government engineers who attempted to survey the northeastern boundary of the territory. Major Doty used to relate in his later years how the party mistook the sources of the Ontonagan River for those of the Montreal, and all unwittingly followed the latter stream to Lake Superior. This reminiscence is borne out by the government report of the survey.

In 1841 Judge Doty was appointed the second governor of Wisconsin Territory, and removed his home from Green Bay to Madison. There until a recent date the Doty home was standing not far from Lake Monona. Charles, although a mere stripling, was appointed private secretary to his father, and acted in that capacity during the three rather stormy years of his father's gubernatorial incumbency. After leaving Madison in 1844, Charles Doty opened a farm in Fond du Lac County, and was elected representative of his community to the first state assembly of 1848. In the meanwhile he married in 1846 Sarah Jane Webster, of Neenah. In 1849 he platted the town site of Menasha and made this place his future home. His father's family had been since 1845 established at the famous "Loggery" on Doty Island; Charles Doty had been hitherto concerned, in company with Curtis and Harrison Reed, in developing the water power of the Winnebago Rapids. He likewise acted as

assistant engineer for the Fox-Wisconsin Improvement Company, which in 1855 took over the Reed and Doty interests in the water power. In 1860 Charles Doty and Abel Keyes formed a partnership for a barrel-stave factory; two years later the former was one of a committee that brought the first railway to Menasha.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Doty volunteered for military service, and in November, 1862, was appointed commissary of subsistence with the rank of captain; his term expiring he was recommissioned in May, 1863, and served until the close of the war, when on June 2, 1865, he was brevetted major and lieutenant colonel for "faithful and meritorious service." His services were with the western army in the Vicksburg campaign, and later with Sherman. Before he was mustered out in March, 1866, Major Doty (as he was commonly called) visited the Indian reservations in the West and Northwest, inventorying government supplies.

After the war Major Doty returned to Menasha; in 1875 he removed to Alton, Illinois, and was at one time connected with the erection of the customhouse at St. Louis. In 1887 Major Doty removed to St. Andrews, Florida, where for over thirty years he lived in retirement with his eldest son, Webster. There in a quiet cemetery, within sight of the waters of the gulf, he rests far from his birthplace in Wisconsin.

The Beloit Historical Society has recently taken advantage of the statute on the subject formally to incorporate and to enroll as an auxiliary of the State Historical Society. Organization of the Society under the new charter was completed at the adjourned annual meeting held in the Society's room in the City Library, December 18, 1918. Mr. A. F. Ayer was elected president, Mrs. J. A. Meyers, Miss Nellie McAlpin, and H. W. Adams, vice presidents, Mrs. Cora Rau, secretary, and Mrs. W. H. Chesebrough, treasurer. In addition there is a board of directors composed of Father Ryan, Professor R. B. Way, and Mrs. R. J. Burdge. Regular monthly meetings are contemplated, with an annual meeting in November. Annual membership dues are \$1; life membership, \$6. The Society starts with 150 members who under the old plan have been paying annual dues of twenty-five cents. We welcome the reorganized Society to the association of local societies of the state; with such a community as Beloit to draw upon, the Society should find adequate support and a useful career.

A number of the trees at Camp Randall, Madison, Wisconsin's famous Civil War encampment, have been marked by the G. A. R. in memory of citizens of the state who were prominent in the Civil War period. Among those thus honored are Governors Randall,



MAJOR CHARLES DOTY

Harvey, and Lewis, Mrs. Harvey ("The Angel of Wisconsin"), General David Atwood, and Maj. H. A. Tenney.

The fiftieth anniversary of Sacred Heart Church at St. Francis was celebrated with an appropriate program December 29, 1918.

In September, 1918, at Oshkosh was observed the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Christoph Dowidat. For thirty-seven years of this time the Rev. Mr. Dowidat has been pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, Oshkosh.

The semicentennial of St. Joseph's German Catholic Church of Appleton was observed with a four-day program November 26-29, 1918. In half a century the congregation has increased from fifty families to seven hundred. Thirty of the original members of the parish are said to be still alive.

The sixtieth anniversary of the Bethany Lutheran Church of Hustisford was celebrated October 13, 1918. The church has had six pastors, one of whom served twenty-eight years (1867-1895) while the career of his successor was terminated by death after a pastorate of twenty-one years. Two charter members of the church lived to witness its sixtieth anniversary.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Milwaukee was seventy-five years old November 28, 1918. At the time of its founding in 1843 its bounds included all Wisconsin and much of eastern Minnesota. The archbishop since 1903 has been Sebastian G. Messmer, long a curator of the State Historical Society.

The Civil War diary, in four manuscript volumes, of Lieutenant A. V. Knapp of the Tenth Wisconsin Infantry has been presented to the Society by Mrs. Knapp of Platteville. On the flyleaf of one of the volumes is this inscription: "If it should be my fortune to fall in battle some friend will please send this Diary to my Brother A. I. Knapp, in Lancaster, Wis." Instead of dying in battle Mr. Knapp died peacefully at his home in Platteville on October 14, 1918, over half a century after the close of the Civil War.

Charles Lapham, of Milwaukee, has presented to the Historical Museum a set of ivory chessmen, a hand scale, a collection of early railroad passes and other articles formerly used by his father, Dr. Increase A. Lapham. Henry P. Hamilton has given a collection of Indian stone implements collected in Manitowoc County by the late Dr. Louis Falge. From Mrs. Mary Atwood, of Prairie du Sac, there has been received a John Wesley New Testament printed in London, in 1817; a "Wanderbuch" carried by a traveling cooper

in Germany in the forties; an old silver watch; a snuffbox; a valentine made in Scotland about the year 1810, and a manuscript arithmetic textbook.

F. G. Warren, Warrens, has presented an interesting old percussion-lock duck gun. This weighs 27½ pounds and was fired from a boat. Other gifts are a Southern slave whip received from G. A. Bart, of Monroe; a miniature silver spoon, said to have been made by Paul Revere, from Mrs. J. M. Ballard, Madison; a Hawaiian hula dancer's leaf skirt from Mrs. M. B. Wengler, Madison; a collection of the military insignia now in use, from The Robbins Company, Attleboro, Massachusetts; a series of G. A. R. badges from Mrs. Katherine Larsen Ertel, Wauzeka; a log marker used in marking logs on Black River, from Mrs. David Johnson, Medford; a goblet made from a piece of wood from the old territorial capitol at Belmont (now Leslie), from W. H. McIntosh, Madison; and a pair of old hand-knit stockings, photograph albums, and other specimens from Miss Mary E. Stewart, Milwaukee.

Gifts of war posters and proclamations, service papers, maps, photographs, religious tracts, and Y. M. C. A. literature have been received from many Wisconsin soldiers. From Lt. Col. George E. Laidlaw, Victoria Road, Ontario, have come many specimens of Canadian war literature and posters.

In the September, 1918, number of the *MAGAZINE* we noted the presentation to the Society by E. O. Kimberley, of Janesville, of ambrotypes of the members of the noted Civil War band of which he was the leader. Mr. Kimberley has followed this initial gift with the presentation of some two hundred Civil War letters written home from the front by himself and his brother, William A. Kimberley, who was killed at Chancellorsville, May 3, 1863. Included in the gift are several letters written to Wisconsin from relatives in England in the years following 1851. One of these, written in October, 1861, foretells the destruction of slavery as a consequence of the war, and finds comfort in the enlistment of two young American relatives in the Union army in the consideration that the war is one waged in the interests of human freedom. This letter derives additional interest from the fact that not until almost two years later did the Federal government commit itself to the program of freeing the negro slaves. An interesting collection of Dakota newspapers contributed by Mr. Kimberley is noted elsewhere in the *MAGAZINE*.

THE COLLECTION OF EUROPEAN WAR MATERIALS

The importance of assembling a representative collection of European war materials in its historical museum for the present and future use of students of the University and of the general public

has long been recognized by the State Historical Society. Being unable to send a representative of its own to the war front the Society has had to depend upon University alumni and students and other generous friends to secure for it such specimens as could be conveniently obtained by them in the course of their military or other war service. Its appeal to them has brought many promises of assistance, most of which it has not yet been possible for these friends to fulfill owing to the difficulties of overseas transportation and the fact that most of these men are still with the expeditionary forces in the field and camp and will be unable to return for some months to come.

The present state collection, therefore, while as yet small, is probably already more extensive than any similar collection in this part of the United States.

In May, 1918 Ray E. Williams, a University student, then but recently returned from France, placed in the museum's care a collection of nearly one hundred specimens (exclusive of war posters and photographs) obtained by him chiefly from the Verdun battle fields, while a member of the American Ambulance Service in France, from January to October, 1917. Among the many notable specimens in this collection are examples of French and German steel helmets and fatigue caps, a German dress helmet, a fez of the kind worn by French Algerian troops, and other articles of uniform. Among the weapons obtained are hand grenades of two types, a trench grenade, an aerial torpedo of the kind used by the French in bringing down hostile airplanes, parts of exploded shrapnel, several 37 mm. shells, a star shell or varylite, rifle cartridges of several kinds, a French bayonet, and scabbard and a noncommissioned officer's pistol with holster.

There are examples of the small compact first aid packages issued to French and British soldiers. A map of the type furnished to German soldiers in 1917 is very complete as it includes maps of all of the then European battle fronts. A match box taken from a fallen German has on the metal top the familiar "Gott Mit Uns." Singularly enough it contains English safety matches. A small French flag, a whistle, a flashlight, and other specimens, together with his passes and papers recall Mr. Williams' service with the ambulance section.

In December, 1918 there came into the possession of the museum a collection made by Mr. Frank H. West, of Madison, still in service in France as Y. M. C. A. secretary. This collection is about as extensive as that of Mr. Williams' and supplements it very well, containing for the most part specimens not present in the other. Of four rifles three are German guns and the other an Enfield of the

kind used by the British army. There is a German officer's automatic pistol and field glass, a soldier's harness with bayonet scabbard and cartridge pouches, several styles of German canteens and belts, a short-handled trench spade, a wickerwork case for carrying shells, a rocket pistol, and German knife and sword bayonets.

A small steel dart thrown from a German airplane operating over the Allied front at Bretueil is also in the collection. These are said to have been thrown down by the handful. After they had fallen several thousand feet their velocity became so great that they would pierce a steel helmet. A number of pieces of twisted metal are parts of a German plane brought down by the French at Malines, on August 18, 1918. Both collections contain many smaller objects of interest which a limited space prevents mentioning.

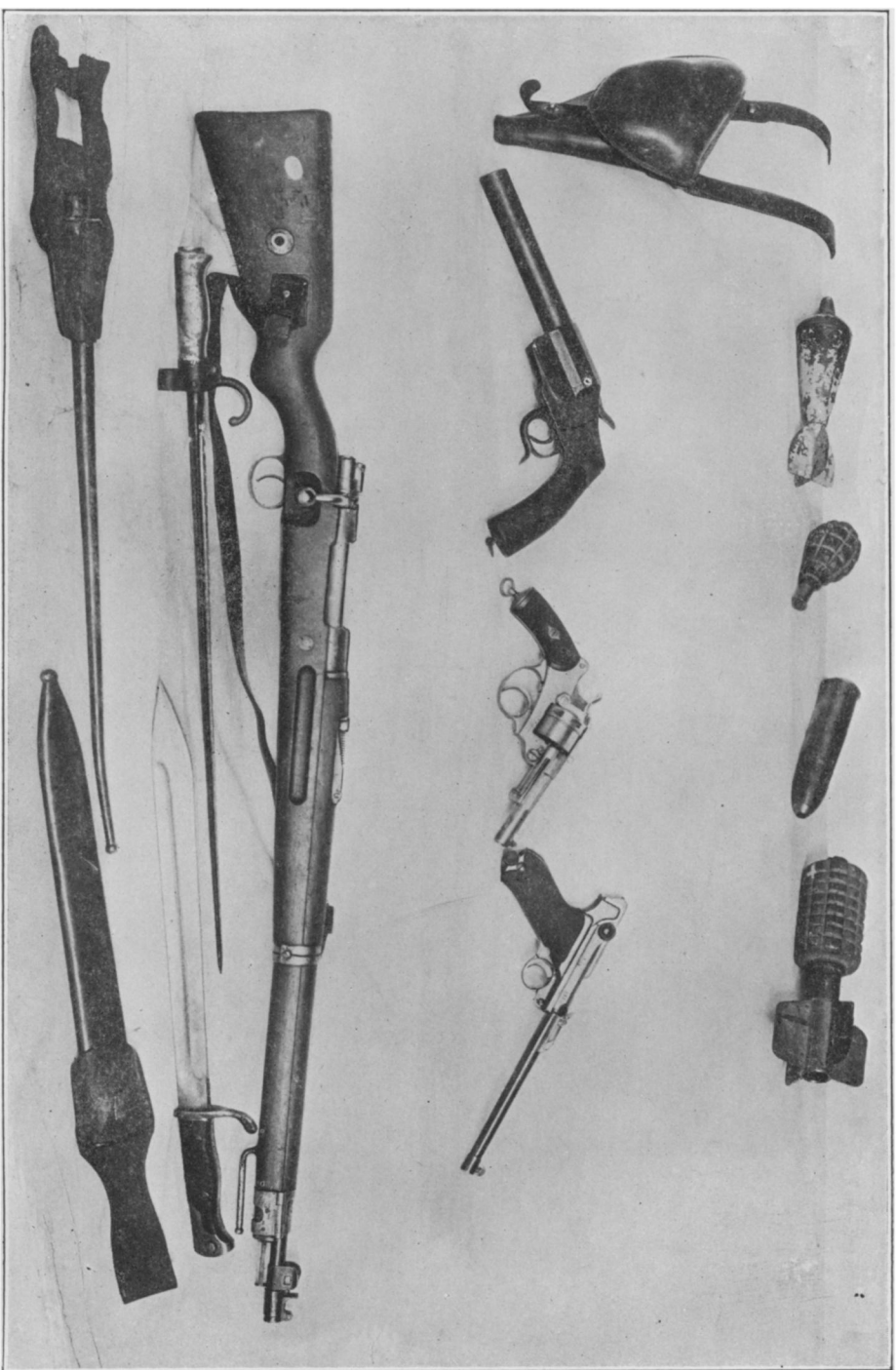
Both previous to and after the installation of these two collections single specimens and smaller numbers of specimens were received from other sources.

The adjutant general's office through the kindness of Major Earl S. Driver has placed in the museum the weather-beaten state colors of the Third Wisconsin Infantry, now the One Hundred Twenty-eighth Infantry, Thirty-second Division. It was carried by this regiment to Camp MacArthur, Texas, and then to France from which country it was returned to the state on July 10, 1918, by the Salvage Service, A. E. F.

A rubber "onion" is made of strips of raw rubber and is one of the kind that was shipped in bags of onions from the United States to Denmark and from that country into Germany at the beginning of the war. A three-inch shrapnel was presented by the University class of '97. A silver watch with a portrait of Kaiser William II was taken from a German sympathizer by a secret service man. There are specimens of rifle grenades, barbed wire, German trench signboards, prayer books, a rosary and crucifix from destroyed churches in France and Belgium, military pass books taken from dead German soldiers, and a fine collection of the letter seals of French, British, and Italian regiments.

Captain Horatio G. Winslow has presented two very interesting Bolshevik proclamations of the kind scattered among the troops of the Allies in Russia by airplanes. Lieut. Harold Wengler has sent a highly colored German prewar propaganda poster found in an Uhlan camp on the road between Vigneuilles and Nonsard, September 13, 1918.

With the help of Lieut. Earl W. Hutchison it has been possible to secure many copies of the *Stars and Stripes*, the *Beaumont Bull*, the *Plane News*, and the *Fly Paper*, newspapers published by the soldiers of the American Expeditionary Force in France. Other



SOME RELICS OF THE GREAT WAR IN THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTION
From a photograph in the Wisconsin Historical Library

copies of these service papers have been obtained through the courtesy of the editorial staffs of these papers and through other friends and the files of these in the State Historical Society's possession give promise of ultimately becoming fairly complete.

THE COLONEL MICHAEL H. FITCH PAPERS

Michael Hendrick Fitch, the son of Aaron and Ann Ashford Fitch, was born March 12, 1837, at Lexington, Kentucky. When a boy he removed to Ohio and was educated in the state schools at Clermont Academy and at Farmers College. He chose the legal profession and was admitted in 1860 to the bar at Cincinnati. The same year he removed to Prescott, Wisconsin, where he began the practice of law. The outbreak of the Civil War found him at Prescott, where he enrolled with the "Prescott Guards" as first sergeant. This company became a part of the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteers, and Fitch was soon commissioned first lieutenant. In 1862 he was chosen adjutant of the newly enrolled Twenty-first Wisconsin Volunteers, and soon acquired the rank of regimental major under Colonel Benjamin J. Sweet. When the latter was wounded at the battle of Perryville, Major Fitch took command of the regiment, and served until June 17, 1865, when he was honorably discharged. In 1866 he was brevetted colonel, and the same year appointed pension agent at Milwaukee—an office he held for four years. Later he removed to Colorado where from 1876 to 1885 he was receiver of the land office at Pueblo. There Colonel Fitch still resides, and from there he has recently sent to the Society such of his Civil War papers as he has preserved.

These papers are few in number, but of much interest. The first in point of time is an annotated muster roll of the Prescott Guards of 1861 with accounts of the subsequent services of the men, of whom thirteen became commissioned officers, thirty-five were wounded, and seventeen killed or died of wounds. Several letters among these papers are from Colonel B. J. Sweet, one of the state's noted sons. After he was wounded at Perryville Sweet's health was permanently shattered, but a foe to inactivity he sought and obtained a colonelcy in the veteran reserve corps, and during the winter of 1862-3 built a fort at Gallatin, Tennessee. In May, 1864 Colonel Sweet was placed in command of the Confederate prisoners at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and there in the autumn of that year he thwarted a dangerous conspiracy of southern sympathizers. In later years he was pension agent at Chicago, and deputy commissioner of internal revenue at Washington. The friendship between Sweet and Fitch was lasting, and the letters show the strong personal character of Colonel Sweet.

Most of the other papers are of a military character, including the reports made by Major Fitch in 1864 of the services in Sherman's army of the Twenty-first Wisconsin. These official accounts are supplemented by Fitch's personal diary written on the battle field between August 23, 1864, and June 13, 1865. On this latter date the regiment "arrived in Milwaukee & took a public Dinner & encamped at Camp Washburn." Four days later the men received their final discharge. Of the 960 who had composed the Twenty-first when it entered service in 1862 Major Fitch reports that but 260 returned home. This diary and the official reports are important bits of the history of our Civil War, and give a realistic picture of Sherman's operations around Atlanta, and during his march to the sea. They form part of the imperishable record of the valor of Wisconsin's sons in 1864. The remaining letters of the collection are postwar letters from Union commanders, extolling the valor and the discipline of the Twenty-first, and the gallantry and good judgment of its officers. Such testimony from generals such as Jeff C. Davis, Charles Walcott, and Lucius Fairchild is indeed high encomium for Wisconsin troops.

THE PETER LARSON LETTERS

The Civil War from the standpoint of an officer is seen in the preceding group of papers. The viewpoint of the self-sacrificing and humble private appears in the letters of Peter Larson, who died last year near Prairie du Chien. Peter Larson was born and grew up in Norway, and came to this country in 1849 entirely ignorant of the English language. With a good natural understanding he soon became conversant with the language of his adopted country, and in 1854 married a descendant of Revolutionary lineage, and settled upon a farm in Crawford County. There three children were born before the tragedy of war cast its shadow over this quiet home. In 1864 when the Union desperately needed more men to complete the work already begun, Peter Larson heeded the call, and volunteered for action. He was sent to Camp Randall, and after a few weeks' preliminary training was forwarded to Virginia where the new recruits were used to fill the depleted ranks in the old regiments. Mr. Larson was assigned to the veteran Seventh Volunteers, and was in all its operations before Petersburg and at the capture of Lee's army at Appomattox. Afterwards he passed with his regiment through Richmond, took part in the grand review in Washington, and in June, 1865 reached Jeffersonville, Indiana, where on the twenty-sixth of that month he was furloughed, and mustered out before his furlough expired.

The family kept all the letters he wrote to his wife, from the one dated October 28, 1864 at Camp Randall to that of June 27, 1865

at Jeffersonville, forty-nine in all, and one from his wife to him announcing the birth of a baby son. In these letters is mirrored the heart of a loving father and husband, separated from and anxious for the welfare of the family at home. In the constant admonitions to his wife to spare herself, in his detailed suggestions for the care of the stock and the farm one sees how a married soldier carried a double burden, and how near was the cause of his country to his heart, when for it he left so dear a home. Mr. Larson's letters may tell us nothing new about battles or strategy, but they do depict the daily life of the Union soldier, and above all the wartime conditions in Wisconsin, where on hundreds and even thousands of farms delicate women struggled on as best they might while their protectors in the army cheered and advised with them, and kept them heartened for the day of the homecoming. These letters also show the devotion of our "foreign legion," America's sons from afar, who, having enjoyed her freedom and purchased a foothold of land upon her broad bosom, offered themselves without reserve for her preservation and unity. Thus the Larson letters become typical in more ways than one of the experiences of Wisconsin soldiers in the war for national unity and democracy.

THE GEORGE B. SMITH PAPERS

One of the most important manuscript gifts that has been received by the Society in recent years is that of the papers of George B. Smith, of Madison, statesman, politician, patriot, legist, lecturer, orator, and friend. Mr. Smith came to Wisconsin from Ohio in 1843. He was then but twenty years of age, and was accompanied by his father and mother and several brothers. Their first Wisconsin residence was Kenosha, but in 1844 the Smiths bought land in Medina Township of Dane County, and shortly thereafter George Baxter Smith settled at Madison, which became his permanent home. He was the youngest member of the first constitutional convention, and from that time until his death was cognizant of and usually a party to every political movement and campaign in Wisconsin. Before the Civil War Mr. Smith held several offices, notably that of attorney general in 1854 under the first Barstow administration. Upon the outbreak of the war he tendered his services to Governor Randall, who immediately made him one of his aides with the rank of colonel. Colonel Smith went to the front in 1861 as the governor's representative, and thereafter throughout the war was engaged in various patriotic services; his health forbade him active military employment.

Mr. Smith was a lifelong Democrat; he did not follow the majority of his early friends and associates into the Republican party. Therefore, after the close of the war he was precluded from public

office. He was often a candidate upon the minority ticket for congress and for state offices. He was also for many years the Wisconsin member on the National Democratic Committee, and during the Hayes-Tilden controversy he was one of the reviewing board. In Wisconsin Mr. Smith strongly supported Democratic candidates and measures, stumping the state in every gubernatorial and presidential campaign. He was a magnetic speaker and whether he lectured on Shakespeare or talked on the most recent political developments he always drew a large and enthusiastic audience. His literary tastes were marked, and he had an unusual library of choice books. He was elected a member of the Chicago Literary Club, as well as of the literary club in his home city. He early adopted the Baconian theory of the authorship of the works of Shakespeare, and he it was who interested its redoubtable champion, Ignatius P. Donnelly in the theory. Mr. Smith's Shakespearean scholarship was recognized in England, where he was invited to participate in the Shakespeare memorial. In short he led a life of great activity and variety and had friendships with men of different politics and widely divergent ideals. One of his friendships which played a part in the history of the state was that with Matthew Carpenter. They early became associated in legal employment; each quickly took the measure of the other and found a friend. It was George B. Smith who really brought about the election of Carpenter to the senate in 1869. He was himself the candidate of the Democrats, who were hopelessly in the minority, and, by swinging his following to the support of Carpenter, he secured his election over other and better known Republican candidates. Another phase of Smith's political activity centered around William R. Taylor and the Potter Law. Taylor, as the first Democratic governor of Wisconsin after the war, was persona grata to Smith; but as an agitator against the railroads, whose attorney Smith was, the governor placed the latter in peculiar circumstances. The history of the Granger movement, and particularly its culmination in the Potter Law, the cases prosecuted thereunder, and the reaction against the law can never be fully written until the Smith papers are consulted.

In 1878 Mr. Smith was mayor of Madison, and during his administration occurred an invasion of tramps which the mayor settled vigorously. He was for many years Wisconsin attorney for the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, and many of the papers are the legal grist of a busy lawyer's office. For many years the firm was Smith and Lamb, the junior partner of which, Mr. Francis J. Lamb, is the donor of this valuable collection. In the midst of his varied and effective activities Mr. Smith was stricken down at the comparatively early age of fifty-six. He died in September, 1879,

after having in July welcomed to Madison the reunion of the surviving members of the two constitutional conventions.

The papers that have been presented to the Society cover Mr. Smith's entire Wisconsin life, but for the period before the Civil War they are not voluminous. For this early period the most valuable part of the collection is the letter books, five in number, extending from 1856, with but one hiatus, to 1870. In these are many letters on political subjects, correspondence during the Barstow-Bashford controversy, material on the presidential elections in Wisconsin, when as early as 1856 Mr. Smith was the national Democratic committeeman. The one relic of Mr. Smith's attorney-generalship of 1854 is a diary for that year, in which, however, there are no entries after the last of March. Among the early papers is a series of letters written in 1843 from Chicago to a friend in Ohio, describing the travels of the Smiths from the latter state to Chicago, their adventures by the way, and their impressions of young Chicago, together with their determination to push on to the territory of Wisconsin, and an account of the factional quarrel therein being waged between Governor Doty and the legislature. The letters of 1861 relate to Colonel Smith's share in the war; but it is not until 1868 that the amount of the correspondence becomes voluminous. From that date until Mr. Smith's death everything apparently has been saved, and because of his wide acquaintance and political prominence these papers present an epitome of Wisconsin history for that decade.

Among the curiosities of the collection we note one of the earliest typewritten letters; the articles of incorporation in 1859 of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway; a scrip of 1846 used in payment for services in the first constitutional convention; a deed of 1849 with the signature of Agoston Haraszthy; a Watertown railway farm mortgage bond; an invitation to the German Peace Celebration of 1871; a Fox-Wisconsin scrip of 1851; and an income tax blank of 1871. Mr. Smith's literary correspondence includes early letters of Ella Wheeler; letters from three presidents of the University of Wisconsin, Daniel Read, Paul A. Chadbourne, and John H. Lathrop; material on the Chicago Literary Club of 1875-76; and letters and pamphlets concerning the Wisconsin Historical Society, of which Mr. Smith was a charter member and a curator for many years. Allied to this material is a number of delightful letters written by our consular and diplomatic agents in Europe, Horace Rublee, and General Lucius Fairchild. There is also a history of Medina Township, Dane County; and several of Mr. Smith's lectures, particularly that on the authorship of Shakespeare.

Amidst the wealth of material for the political history of the state it would be invidious to attempt to specify particular correspondence. The letters of Senator Carpenter and Governor Taylor have already been noted; among others are those of Elisha W. Keyes, James H. Howe, James R. Doolittle, Levi Hubbell, Thad C. Pound, David Atwood, Arthur McArthur, and many others well known in the state's activities. Much of the material is legal, but even this with the free use of passes and lobbying by the railways then in vogue assumes a political significance. Suffice it to say, that when the history of Wisconsin from 1868 to 1879 is adequately written, recourse will have been had to the papers of George B. Smith for material that cannot be found elsewhere. To the post Civil War portion of the Society's manuscript collections, this new acquisition is an important contribution.

SOME RECENT PUBLICATIONS

E. O. MÖRSTAD. *Elling Eielsen og den Evangelisk-lutherske Kirke i Amerika*. (Minneapolis, 1917, 474 pp.)

Interest in the controversy which raged in Norwegian Lutheran circles in this country a half century ago over the Reverend Elling Eielsen and his work will be revived by the appearance of this new biographical volume from the pen of the Reverend E. O. Mörstad. The book is the result of a dozen years of patient investigation and research and bears evidence of careful and cultured preparation.

The centenary of Eielsen's birth occurred in 1904, and at the annual conference that year of the Evangelical-Lutheran Church—which is the slender surviving element of Eielsen's original organization—a resolution was adopted providing for the preparation and publication of a historical survey of this branch of the Lutheran Church, with the Reverend Mr. Mörstad as editor. The present volume of nearly five hundred pages is the result.

Eielsen may be said to have been the first preacher among the Norwegian immigrants in the United States, coming to this country in 1839 and soon afterward preaching his first sermon in Chicago. Previous to his coming to America, he had journeyed through Norway, Sweden, and Denmark as a lay preacher after the fashion of Hans Nielson Hauge, the celebrated evangelist, of whom Eielsen may be said to have been a follower. On October 3, 1843, Eielsen was ordained by a German minister, and was thus the first ordained Lutheran minister among the Norwegian settlers. Incidentally Eielsen becomes of further interest at this time from the fact that he brought out the first English book and also the first Norwegian book published by Norwegians in this country, Luther's *Catechism*